

Felmersham & Radwell Community Care

~ Caring For Those In Need ~

Short term help for anyone in the Parish, using the services of local volunteers.

Call us on **07786 344176**, leave your name and number with the Duty Officer and one of our local Volunteers will contact you as quickly as possible.

Parish Diary

July	
Sat 2 10.30am	Coffee Morning
Sun 3 10.15am	Choral Communion Trinity 6
Sun 10 10.15am	Celebration Service (see note)
Sun 10 2.00pm	Felmersham Fete
Thu 14 3.00pm	Thursday Club
Sun 17 10.15am	Choral Communion Trinity 8
Tue 19 7.30pm	Women's Institute
Sun 24 10.15am	Matins and Communion Trinity 9
Sun 24 3.00pm	Baptism
Sun 31 10.15am	Choral Communion Trinity 10
August	
Sat 20 3.00pm	Gerry & Hazel Sidebottom Celebration

Priest in Charge: Rev David Mason (309737)

Churchwardens: Sally Carr (781225), Paul Keeble (782134)

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Felmersham & Radwell Ouse News

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July 2005

Greetings

I am very pleased to be writing this as your new Priest-in-Charge and I am very grateful to David Mason for the way in which he has allowed this smooth transition to happen. This move, which might seem odd, is a necessary part of the jigsaw which leads to the creation of the United Benefice and then, ultimately, a Team Ministry in this area, with David as a Team Vicar and myself as Team Rector. But there are lots of discussion with the different Parishes involved and mountains of paperwork to be done before we get in to that position. Indeed to effect any change, we need to get approval from the Privy Council itself.

I thought it might be useful to give you a little information about my family and myself. I am married to Caroline and this year we celebrate our thirtieth wedding anniversary. We have one son Rob who is married to Rebecca and they live in Reading. I came into ordained ministry in much the same way that David did. We both started as what you might call "mature students." I trained on the St Albans and Oxford Ministry Course, which was a successor to the M.T.S. Course, which was the course on which David trained. We both were Non-Stipendiary Ministers, which is an unpaid and often part-time post, although I converted to full-time stipendiary ministry two years ago when I went to Wymington and Podington. This move to Wymington and Podington was after serving my time as a Curate with Ian Arthur at Sharnbrook.

Before I took up training for the ministry, amongst other things I trained as an accountant and worked for the last fifteen or so years in a plastics fabrication company in Hitchin. Caroline and I have lived in the area for more than twenty years, first in Turvey and then for the last two years in Wymington.

I think that the Church globally is facing a period of change as it seeks to come to terms with a world that is moving so fast. Issues, such as falling numbers of candidates for ordination affect all areas, including rural communities such as Sharnbrook Deanery. We all face problems but I look forward, with David's support, to fully exploring the options that face us, and to a future that will bring us all closer together. With every blessing,

Bell ringing

On Monday July 11th we have visiting ringers from Beds & Herts from 11.45 to 12.30.

Colin Payne

Felmersham Fete

This will be held on Sunday July 10, 2 pm. Traditional games and some surprises! Come and enjoy all the fun, meet old friends and make new ones. Children's races, sideshows, inter-village Tug of War, WI Teas, pony rides, plant and pottery stalls and a whole lot more, finishing with a "Bring your own food" barbecue from 4.30 onwards. Donations for the bottle tombola very welcome! (To Harrowdene Paddock, The High Road, Felmersham, please) Proceeds go towards the refurbishment of your Village Hall. See you there!

Felmersham & Radwell Brownies

We require from September a new Unit Helper for the pack. We meet on a Thursday evening between 6pm and 7.30pm at Pinchmill Hall. A person used to dealing with active 7 to 10 year olds is sought. If interested or you know of someone who could help, please contact me on 782134.

Flower Festival and Concert

The weekend was a great success, not only because of the pleasure given to so many but also for the community spirit generated. Our thanks go to the Hemingford Ladies Choir for a delightful concert, to the many helpers both before the concert and on the night, and to the local businesses and the WI for their help, donations or raffle prizes. Special thanks must go to the ladies who not only created those wonderful flower arrangements, but donated the cost of the flowers - this was very much appreciated. Last of all, our thanks go to those who supported both the concert and the flower festival - because of your generosity we are able to send to Cancer Research UK the sum of £1280. Thank you all.

Forthcoming Events

We welcome Robert Evens, our new Priest-in-Charge. By now many of you have had the chance to meet him. The coming together of our Parishes will, I believe, bring great benefits for all of us, and we look forward to our future working together even more closely that we have in the past.

Gerry and Hazel Sidebottom - Many of you will remember Gerry and Hazel, Gerry who was Vicar here for some time, retired in 1980. On Saturday 20th August we will be joining with them as they celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary in a Special Service to be held in our Church at 3.00pm. There will be a reception in the Village Hall after the service. I hope that as many as possible of you will be able to attend the service, and rejoice with Gerry and Hazel.

Celebration Service - Ten years ago, at the beginning of July, I was ordained in St Albans Abbey. I invite you all to a celebration service to be held on the morning of 10th July in St Mary's Church at 10.15am. The other Parishes of the uniting benefices will be joining us, and there will be refreshments in the church after the service.

Thursday Club

Geoff Hulatt drove The Villager for 20 members and helpers and Mary Freeman took her car with the overspill on the outing to Stoke Bruerne which was much enjoyed by all. The weather was kind - only a light drizzle which soon stopped. There were long-boats going through the lock to watch and walked down to the Blisworth Tunnel. Others went to the museum which depicted life as it was led by the old time long boatmen and their families. Tea in the Old Chapel tea-rooms, a musical drive home and cheers for Geoff finished the day.
The next meeting will be on Thursday July 14th at 3pm in Tom and Jane Wells' garden (usual transport arrangements).

The Villager Community Minibus

We are a small band of dedicated volunteers who operate one minibus (16 seats). We run a scheduled service on most weekdays generally to transport local people to markets and shops in surrounding towns.

We require a volunteer to undertake the role of SCHEDULED SERVICES ASSISTANT

Duties entail: Ensuring each month that all daily 'bus services are provided with a driver. Complete all associated paperwork. Applicants should possess good people skills and have a flexible approach. Someone with access to and basic computer skills would be desirable. The role would suit someone living in the Sharnbrook/Felmersham Area and will entail approximately 4 hours work per week. Knowledge of basic transport legislation is desirable but not essential, as full training will be given

Applications to: Mike Bain, Manager, The Villager Minibus (Sharnbrook) Ltd, c/o 21A Church End, BIDDENHAM, Bedford MK40 4AR.

Tel: 01234 261340 or 07767 388026

Goodbye and Thank You

We have moved to Melchbourne after living in Felmersham for nearly 14 years, and would like to say goodbye and thank all who have been so kind over the years.

Nigel and Suzanne Sharpe, and their two children, have moved into The Old Stables and we hope that their new life in Felmersham will be a happy one.

The Felmersham and Radwell Community Trust

The late Margaret Alleyway bequeathed the residue of her estate to the Felmersham and Radwell Community Care and when the estate administration was completed the residue amounted to approximately £230,000. The Felmersham and Radwell Community Trust was duly formed and four members from the Parish were invited to become Trustees; these are Michael Thomas,

Jo Morris

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The Trustees

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Jeffrey Stokley, Richard Phipps and Lorraine Shrimpton, and they are responsible for all aspects of running the Trust. Meetings are held quarterly, during which current applications for grants are discussed, bearing in mind that the objectives of the Trust are:

to provide help with domestic support, for the elderly, sick, disabled, or those in need within the two villages of Felmersham and Radwell, in co-operation with other relevant providers of such help;

to provide facilities for social welfare, recreation and leisure, again in co-operation with other relevant organisations, for the benefit of the inhabitants of these two villages.

To date, applications for grants have been agreed, either in full or part-funded, to Pinchmill Pre-School (for completion of their splendid new purpose-built accommodation), and to the Parochial Church Council (for essential churchyard tree-planting and funds towards installing an audio-loop system in the church). In the pipeline is also the possibility of extending the number of Christmas lights in the Parish.

Are you seeking funds for a project or an idea which you feel will be of benefit to the Parish of Felmersham and Radwell and which fall within the objectives listed above? If so we would like to hear from you. Application forms for grants are available from any of the Trustees and upon completion should be sent to The Felmersham and Radwell Community Trust, c/o Willow Lodge, Grange Road, Felmersham, Bedford MK43 7HJ.

Sue and John Whiting

For 24 years (is this a record?) Sue Whiting has delivered the Ouse News to all in Pavenham Road. To show our appreciation of her dedication, a collection was taken, and the proceeds were presented to Sue, to choose a memento for her new home in Norfolk. Our best wishes for their future, go to Sue and John. Thank you to Hilary Foot (from The Slip), for taking on Sue's role.

Karen Stokley

Felmersham & Radwell W.I.

Our June outing took us to the World War II museum at Thurlleigh Airfield, in a compact building full of memorabilia relating to the American heavy bomber group which operated from there between 1942 and 1945. After giving us a brief history of the base, Ralph Franklin (the curator) and his wife were on hand to answer our questions. We had tea, coffee and delicious cakes provided by our Committee, whilst seated outside the museum on a glorious midsummer evening, and doing what we do best...!

We have again been asked to do teas for the Village Day on Sunday, July 10th. At our next meeting on July 19th Ken Shrimpton, back by popular demand, will talk about "Researching and Writing Local History". The competition is for "An Old Map".

Coffee Morning

The Coffee Morning for July in aid of the Church Organ fund will be held at the home of John and Marigold Sykes on Saturday 2 July 2005 at 10.30 am. Home made cakes, toiletries, produce and bric-a-brac for the bring and buy stall will be greatly appreciated. All welcome

There is no Coffee Morning in August so the next one will be on 2 September 2005 at the home of Tony and Jo Morris.

Pinchmill Pre-School Opening Ceremony

Sue Wright

On Sunday 12th June Pinchmill Pre-School celebrated its 30th anniversary by opening a new purpose built pre-school and play area. Sally Carr, the first playleader when the group started in 1975, opened the new premises named in memory of Fleur Tobutt. We were pleased so many friends were able to be there - about 60 people attended the ceremony and visited the new premises - making it a real celebration of what the community has achieved. Nearly £14,000 was raised locally by parents and the villages of Felmersham, Radwell and Pavenham, while grants from The Bedford Charity, Awards for All, the Co-op, Felmersham & Radwell Community Trust and the Garfield & Weston Foundation also made a significant financial contribution towards the project.

The idea of operating from our own dedicated building was first put forward back in 2001, so there have been many people who have helped to achieve our goal. In her speech on Sunday Christine Callaghan, the current pre-school leader, made special mention of Jeremy Carr, Don Stevenson and Martin Blizard.

Don and Jeremy took on the task of overseeing the building work, while Martin not only donated his expertise as an electrician but has also spent many weekends there helping to create a fun and safe play area for the children. However, the person who has worked hardest to make sure that this project was a success is Christine herself and to show their appreciation the parents and children presented her with a bouquet and a card signed (in hand prints!) by the children themselves.

FIGURATIVE SCULPTURE AND PORTRAITS

To view work by local artist Marigold Sykes

Please visit my website www.artaddress.co.uk

To commission a work please ring me on **01234 781801**

Or mob.07971630254